



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Committee Bill No. 5995

LCO No. 3299

03299HB05995ET_

Referred to Committee on Energy and Technology

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE FREEDOM TO DRY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2009*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section, "governing body" means any municipality, political
3 subdivision of the state, fire district, sewer district, village, beach or
4 improvement association or any other district or association or any
5 condominium or cooperative association; and "direct solar energy"
6 means direct sunlight or ambient outside air warmed by sunlight.
- 7 (b) No governing body may impose an ordinance, regulation or
8 other restriction prohibiting the drying of clothes using direct solar
9 energy through the use of clotheslines, drying racks or other apparatus
10 in any residential setting.
- 11 (c) No deed restrictions, covenants, landlord-tenant agreements,
12 private contracts or similar binding agreements running with the land
13 shall prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, the drying of clothes
14 using direct solar energy through the use of clotheslines or drying
15 racks in any residential setting, provided such clotheslines or drying
16 racks do not affect public safety, including, but not limited to,

17 hampering access to public buildings or impeding rapid emergency
18 egress.

19 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, a governing body
20 may prohibit the drying of clothes using direct solar energy through
21 the use of clotheslines or drying racks in any residential setting if (1)
22 nonpermanent alternatives, such as folding racks, would provide the
23 same drying service as permanent installations of clotheslines and
24 supporting structures; (2) functionally equivalent alternate drying
25 facilities, such as indoor drying rooms, are available, provided said
26 facilities do not rely on the use of electricity or fossil fuels specifically
27 for drying; or (3) such prohibitions incorporate aesthetic
28 considerations, provided such restrictions do not substantially
29 interfere with access to direct solar energy for drying purposes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2009	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To facilitate energy conservation.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. LESSER, 100th Dist.; REP. TERCYAK, 26th Dist.
REP. REED, 102nd Dist.; REP. HORNISH, 62nd Dist.
REP. DREW, 132nd Dist.; REP. JOHNSON, 49th Dist.

H.B. 5995, 5991